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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/546,682	04/11/2000	Shinya Goto	35.C14417	4688

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EXAMINER	
SAJOUS, WESNER	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2676	14

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/546,682	GOTO, SHINYA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Wesner Sajous	2676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 June 2004* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10 and 19-22* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 7-20* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *5 and 6* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

This communication is responsive to the Request For Reconsideration filed on June 14, 2004. Claims 1-10, and 19-22 are currently presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10, and 19-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 7-10, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujisaki et al. (US Pat. No. 5963666) in view of Ooishi (US Pat. 5890184).

Considering claim 1, Fujisaki, at figs. 2-5, discloses a character-string information output apparatus for outputting character string information supported by a predetermined character encoding scheme (see abstract), comprising:

Search means (items 240, 250, fig. 2) for searching the character-string information having identical contents (*wherein the identical contents corresponds with the recognizable characters that have a dictionary match, see col. 4, line 40 to col. 5, line 37)*, in a case where it is instructed to output the character string;

Extraction means (260, fig. 2) for extracting the character encoding scheme interpretable by the character-string information output apparatus from the character encoding schemes supporting the character-string information searched by the search means; and character-string information outputting means (*260, fig. 2*) for outputting the character-string information supported by the extracted character encoding scheme.

It is noted that although Fujisaki discloses substantial features of the claimed invention, Fujisaki fails to teach that searching, from an external memory, character-string information that is supported by a plurality of different character encoding schemes.

Ooishi, in a similar art, searching (16a, fig. 2), from an external memory (17a), character-string information (e.g., a desired character code system) that is supported by a plurality of different character encoding schemes (e.g., JEF, EUC, and Shift JIS encoding schemes. See col. 6, line 60 to col. 7, line 21, col. 8, lines 54-67 and col. 9, lines 21-65).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the character-string recognizer of Fujisaki to include the search of character-string information supported by a plurality of different character encoding schemes from an external memory in the same conventional manner as taught by Ooishi. The purpose would be provide an external character management system that permits external characters of all systems to be collectively managed at a single location. See Ooishi's col. 2, lines 43-48.

Independent claims 19 and 20 are method and storage medium claims. Respectively, corresponding to apparatus claim 1, and they are, therefore, rejected under the same rationale as claim 1.

Independent claims 7-10, 21 and 22 include features analogous to and similar to the limitations discussed above in connection to claim 1. Accordingly, claims 7-10, 21 and 22 are rejected for reason substantially similar to what is discussed above in connection with claim 1.

4. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujisaki (5963666) in view of Ooishi (US Pat. 5890184), as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Kanungo.

Regarding claim 2, Fujisaki and Ooishi render obvious most claimed features of the invention as applied to claim 1, but Fujisaki and Ooishi fail to teach a font information search means for searching font information corresponding to the character string information, wherein said character-string information output means outputs the character string information based on the searched font information.

Kanungo, in a similar art teaches font information search means (150 and 160, see col. 15, lines 7-15) for searching font information corresponding to the character string information supported by the extracted character encoding scheme, wherein said character-string information output means (92/95) outputs the character string information based on the searched font information (*as characterized by the illustrations at figs. 113-14*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the character-string it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the character-string system of Fujisaki and Ooishi to include the features of Kanungo, in order to quickly retrieve glyph font of a Unicode characters with a large number of characters (see Kanungo's col. 15, lines 12-14).

As per claim 3, Kanungo discloses the equivalence for a character string information output means (92/95) outputs character string information supported by the character encoding scheme capable of responding to only a limited language (e.g., characters for languages with large characters, i.e., Japanese or Chinese, see col. 15, lines 10-15) and the character-string information supported by the character encoding scheme capable of responding to a plurality of languages (see abstract and cols. 1-4, and 15). See claim 2 for reason of obviousness.

Re claim 4, Kanungo discloses the claimed--character-string information output apparatus the character string information output means automatically selects the character encoding scheme extracted by the extraction means and outputs (via rendering engine 92) the character-string supported by the selected character encoding scheme (e.g., the encoding scheme represented by one of encoding values 174a-174n of fig. 10). See claim 2 for reason of obviousness.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the

base claim and any intervening claims, because the prior art fail to suggest a character-string information output apparatus wherein if the character-string information does not have the font information corresponding to the character string information supported by the extracted character encoding scheme, the character-string information output means outputs the character-string information by using another font information, else it does not output the character string information.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to :

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0r:

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Hand-held delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA , 6th floor (receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wesner Sajous whose telephone number is (703) 308-5857. The examiner can be reached on Mondays thru Thursdays and on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (703) 308-6829. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-6606.

Wesner Sajous WPS

8/29/2004

Matthew C. Bella

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